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ABSTRACT

The ideas set forth in this booklet pave a way for the integration of the Title I of the Improving America's Schools Act and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) programs. It describes innovative ways to blend federal funds to help support schools that are serving both children who are disadvantaged and children with disabilities. The Improving America's Schools Act offers multiple opportunities for educators to coordinate resources and activities in ways that reduce the duplication of effort and the fragmentation of services that sometimes occurs in schools with multiple programs. This booklet presents models intended to assist schools and school districts as they work to maximize the impact of federal education programs on the academic achievement of all students. The booklet also addresses the needs and importance of standards and linking these standards to instruction. Finally, it addresses how to incorporate assessment of both Title I and IDEA programs and how to align alternate assessments with the general education curriculum. Appendices include compliance requirements that apply to more than one Department of Education program and a description of responsibilities during audits of federal programs. (Contains 11 references.) (CR)

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